

Dear Parents and Students,

We appreciate your patience and flexibility as we work through the details and difficulties of this extended closure. We have outlined information regarding instructional services and continuity of learning for our students. It is our goal to ensure all students remain engaged in relevant learning throughout the closure. We aim to keep our students engaged and learning over the next two weeks. During this school closure, we ask that parents and guardians encourage students to utilize the materials and resources their teachers have provided.

The purpose of the assignments is to provide opportunities to keep students engaged while reinforcing information previously covered in class. We hope to keep students' brains active to maintain communication between students and teachers. Teachers will not be grading the assignments but they may provide feedback on the work. It also provides the teacher an opportunity to see areas where students may need additional reinforcement. Students in grades 5-8 will receive online instruction via Schoology, aimed at engaging students in learning for core content area, each day. Middle school teachers will provide paper copies of the instruction materials for any student who does not have consistent, reliable access to the internet. If students do not have access to online learning we will have instructional packets that will be available through self-service pick up in bins, labeled by grade level and subject, at the front door of the middle school main entrance. The assignments should not create anxiety or stress for students or families. If your child is having trouble with a particular problem or concept, have them move on to another section. We recognize this situation is highly unusual and we must remain flexible and fluid in our expectations of students. Our teachers are monitoring their email daily and you can reach out to them if you have questions. Parents may also convey questions by emailing the building administrators, Dr. Sandra Goss, Principal(sgoss@forsyth3.k12.mo.us) and Dr. Ryan Persinger, Assistant Principal (rpersing@forsyth3.k12.mo.us).

Forsyth middle school staff members will be calling families on Monday to check how you are doing during this time and find out if students have access to online learning or need printed materials. 5-8 learning packets will be made available for parent pick-up beginning Wednesday, March 25. Our staff members will be sharing information regarding meals for students and how to obtain them.

Student Expectations:

- Students are encouraged to engage in the learning opportunities provided by their teachers each week. These opportunities can be completed at any time during the school closure.
- Students should take advantage of opportunities to reach out to their teachers via Schoology classroom or email. Please do not hesitate to contact your teacher if you need any support with the material or assignments. Teachers will respond to any emails within 24 hours within the work week.
- Middle School students will need their laptop (or another device) with internet access, login information, and Schoology Classroom information.
- School counselors are available for students and will respond to any emails within 24 hours within the work week. Please do not hesitate to contact your school counselor by email.

Finally, during this global pandemic health crisis, we are focused on containing the spread of the virus. Of almost equal importance is our own mental health. I am [sharing the guidance from the National Association of School Psychologists for talking with children about COVID-19](#). I want all of us to intentionally consider our own mental health during this stressful time.

Again, thank you for your patience, understanding, support, and forgiveness during this global pandemic health crisis.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sandra J. Goss